ABSTRACT

A method for distributing web content efficiently across a network of information processing units and intermediate nodes. The method on an information processing unit includes receiving a web content object created by a user that is to be distributed to a set of destinations. Also, the method further includes sending a single copy of the web content object across the network via intermediate nodes to a set of destinations using a reliable multicast technique. Also, the invention includes receiving a packet on an intermediate node where the packet contains address information for a set of destinations. Also, the invention includes determining at an intermediate node the next hop or next hops that the packet should be forwarded to and forwarding a copy of the packet to each of those next hops.